

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-20 (Cancelled)

-- 21 (New): A method of enabling an end-user to locally process content information at a quality level remotely adjustable by a service provider, comprising:
communicating over a data network with an end user apparatus for rendering content information, and configuring the end-user apparatus to locally adjust the quality of content information rendered through the end-user apparatus, the adjustment to quality being based on one or both of (1) a change in the storage capacity for storing content information in a storage device associated with the end-user apparatus, and (2) a change to the software controlling a rendering circuit associated with the end user apparatus.

22 (New): The method of claim 21, wherein the end-user receives a higher quality in return for a higher fee.

23 (New): The method of claim 21, wherein:

- the content information comprises video data;
- the quality level relates to at least one of a color depth and a resolution of the video data when rendered.

24 (New): The method of claim 21, wherein the adjusting of the quality of the storing comprises regulating a storage capacity of the storage device.

25 (New): The method of claim 24, wherein the regulating of the storage capacity comprises providing end-user access to a selected portion of a local storage.

26 (New): The method of claim 25, wherein:

- the storage device comprises a HDD; and
- the storage capacity is regulated by controlling a mechanical component of the HDD.

27 (New): The method of claim 25, wherein:

- the local storage comprises a solid state memory; and
- the storage capacity is regulated by controlling an address range of the memory.

28 (New): The method of claim 25, wherein:

- the local storage comprises an ODD; and
- the storage capacity is regulated by controlling a mechanical component of the ODD.

29 (New): The method of claim 21, wherein the locally adjusting the quality comprises changing the software for the rendering circuit to control a data format of the content information for play out.

30 (New): A CE apparatus for processing content information received by the device via a data network, wherein:

- the apparatus enables an end-user to select a specific one of multiple quality levels of the processing; and

- the apparatus comprises a controller for setting the specific quality level in response to a signal supplied by a third party, the controller is coupled to a storage device, wherein a specific quality level corresponds to a specific storage capacity allocated for the content information by the controller according to the signal, the apparatus configured to receive the content information and the signal via a data network

31 (New): The apparatus of claim 30, wherein the storage device comprises at least one of: a HDD, an ODD, and a solid state memory.

32 (New): The apparatus of claim 30, wherein:

- the apparatus enables processing comprising playing out the content information;

- the apparatus comprises a circuit for rendering the content information;

- the controller is coupled to the data rendering circuit for setting the specific quality of the rendering under control of the signal.

33 (New): The apparatus of claim 32, wherein:

- the content information comprises video data;

- the specific quality determines at least one of a resolution of the rendered content information and a color depth of the rendered content information.

34 (New): An end-user system comprising:
an output for rendering of content information to an end user;
a communication interface for communicating over a data network with a third party server for remotely adjusting the rendering of content information on the end-user system;
the quality of content information rendered through the output being adjustable by the server, the adjustment to quality being based on one or both of (1) a change in the storage capacity for storing content information in a storage device associated with the end user apparatus, and (2) a change to the software controlling a rendering circuit associated with the end-user system.

35 (New): The system of claim 34 wherein the storage capacity of the storage device is remotely adjustable.

36 (New): The system of claim 34 wherein the software is remotely adjustable.

37 (New): The system of claim 35 wherein the storage device comprises one of a HDD, an ODD, and a solid state memory.

38 (New): The system of claim 34 wherein the quality of content information comprising video information is remotely adjustable and the output apparatus comprises a video display.

39 (New): The system of claim 38 wherein the output comprises a television display.

40 (New): The system of claim 38 wherein the storage device comprises a PVR.

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